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SVENSKA INSTITUTET
L'INSTITUT SUÉDOIS

THE ROAD TO HEAVEN

(Himlaspelet)

THE ROAD TO HEAVEN

A screen story adapted from the play "Ett spel
om en väg som till Himla bär", by Rune Lindström.

Script: Rune Lindström
Alf Sjöberg

Direction: Alf Sjöberg

Camera: Gösta Roosling

Music: Lillie-Bror Söderlundh

Assistant Directors: Gösta Folke
Herman Ahlsell

Sound Recording: Per Olof Pettersson
Bengt Runsten

Sets by: Arne Åkermark

Sound System: Peterson Poulsen-
Aga-Baltic

Production: Wivofilm (1942)

Cast:

Mat's Ersson..... Rune Lindström

Marit Knutsdotter..... Eivor Landström

Our Lord..... Anders Henrikson

King Solomon..... Holger Löwenadler

The Concubine..... Gudrun Brost

The Gourd Painter..... Arnold Sjöstrand

Gammel-Jerk..... Emil Fjellström

The Blind Man..... Nils Gustafsson

Elias..... Hugo Björne

Jonah..... Torsten Winge

Jeremiah..... Åke Claesson

Isaiah..... Frithiof Hedvall

Joseph..... Björn Berglund

Mary..... Inge-Lilly Forsström

The Angel of The Lord..... Gunnar Sjöberg

The Priest..... Nils Ingels

Jon Persson..... Erik Hell

Jon Persson's Wife..... Berta Hall

The Herd-boy..... Anders Nyström

Mat's Mother..... Tekla Sjöblom

The Peasant Woman..... Liskulla Jobs

Garp Jesper..... Harry Ahlin

Garp Jesper's Daughter.... Anita Björk

The Curate..... Gösta Folke

Length: 2,310 m

The young Dalecarlian, Mats Erason, determines to go to Our Lord and call Him to account for allowing his sweetheart, the fair Marit, to be falsely accused of witchcraft and burned at the stake. He has many adventures and encounters many perils on his journey. He meets the Holy Prophets in the cow pasture and spends Christmas night with Mary and Joseph, but is led astray by Satan himself in the person of Cammel-Jerk, who takes him to Solomon's feast, from which he flees with the King's concubine. He strays from the right path and slips further and further away from heaven. The years pass and by dint of hard work he becomes the owner of a blind man's grange. He grows richer and richer but more and more hard and forgets the purpose of his pilgrimage.

When the end draws near, the Devil comes to fetch him in his black carriage. Mats begs for mercy and is granted a respite until sunrise. If by that time he can find someone who will put in a good word for him, he will be pardoned. But nobody who knows him has a good word to say for him. At the last minute Our Lord has mercy on him and he meets his beloved Marit in Our Lord's pastures.